

A New Species of *Mayetia* (Coleoptera Pselaphidae) From Northern California¹

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The purpose of this paper is to describe a new species of the genus *Mayetia* from northern California.

This species was collected in Bidwell Park, (Butte Co., Chico) in an experimental plot established in 1950 by the honorary biological fraternity of Chico State College, Omicron Theta Epsilon. This plot was set up for the purpose of a 5-year study of the effect of sheep grazing on the wildflower population of Bidwell Park. The 2-acre plot was enclosed by a barbed-wire fence and is being compared with a 2-acre open plot at the northern boundary of Bidwell Park. This is the only new species so far described from the enclosed plot, which is now referred to as the Omicron Plot.

Mayetia skeeteri new species

(Figures A-C)

This species along with other West Coast species can be distinguished from members of the genus *Mayetia* Mulsant & Rey occurring in other parts of the United States by the lack of sensory structures with the exception of the cone and specialized setae on the fourth segment of the maxillary palp (Schuster 1960 and 1961).

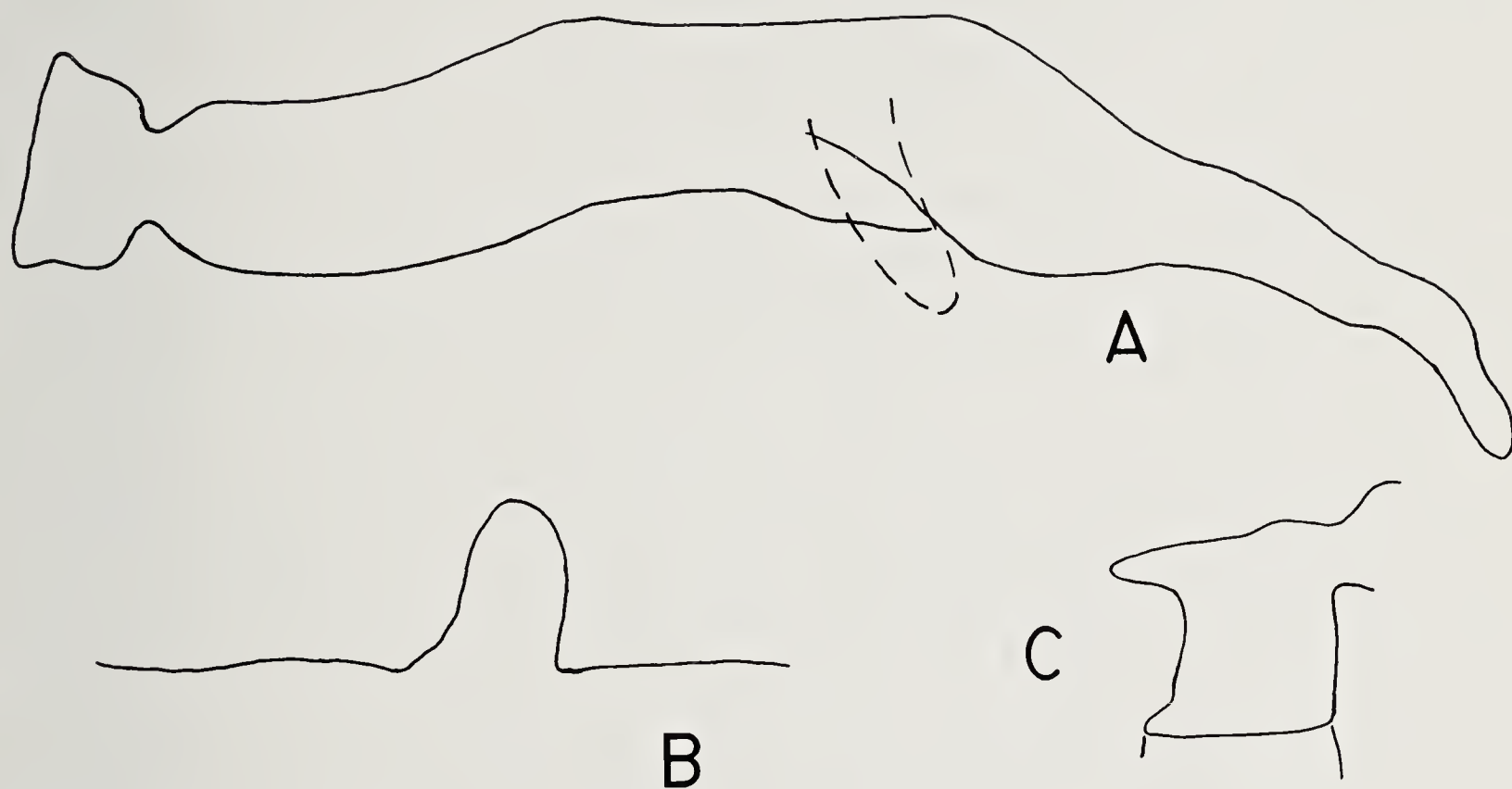
This species is distinct from others of the Western United States group in the shape of the aedeagus, which is a simple slender tubular structure pointed apically. There is a median process on it which seems to lie at right angles to the rest of the structure. It resembles most closely the aedeagus of *M. grayae* Schuster except that the apical end is pointed, not broadly rounded as in *M. grayae*.

Head lacking eyes, with 60-70 setae on the dorsal surface. Tubercles located at the base of the antennae and head. Clypeus short and transverse. Labrum tridentate. Each mandible with an M-shaped tooth, the right tooth with rounded points of unequal lengths, the left tooth with sharp points of equal length. Ventral surface of the head flat; the gular fovea with tentorial connections to the vertexal foveae. Mentum with 2 integumental projections anterior to a pair of setae. Circular mark and 2 setae occur on the head capsule posterior to the mentum. Maxillary palpus with 4 segments; 1 macroseta on segment 3, segment 1 minute, 2 pyriform, 3 globose, and 4 ovoid with a minute straight palpal cone and 2 thin hyaline setae midway on outer margin. Antennae 11-segmented. Segment 1 twice as long as 2; 3 and 4 half as long and nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ as wide as 2; 5 wider than 4; 6 slightly narrower than 5; 7 about equal to 6; 8 narrower than 5; and 9 equal to 7. Segment 10 cup-shaped with 4

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macrosetae; 11 equal to 10 in length with 7 lamellate setae evenly spaced around the base; these 2 segments form a club.

The thorax comprises about $\frac{1}{3}$ the total length. Prothorax nearly square, being slightly longer than wide and narrower posteriorly. The meso- and metathorax equal in length to the prothorax. Apterous; elytra lacking fovea, disk simple, humeral angles rounded with apices truncate. Pro- and mesotrochanter simple and without spines; metatrochanter of male spined, shaped as in Fig. C. Each tibia with a short comb of setae dorsally, a longer comb ventrally and 2 spines at the apex. Tarsi 2-segmented with a single claw.



Abdomen with 6 visible segments. Visible segments 5 and 6 not separated by an hexagonally marked membrane as are 1 through 5. Segments 1, 4 and 6 with doughnut-shaped spiracles. Sternite 6 of male notched, shaped as in Fig. B. Male genitalia shaped as in Fig. A.

Measurements in μ : Male, head length 185.0-201.0, width 133.0-144.3; pronotum length 128.7-140.0, width 85.6-124.8; elytra length 164.0-179.4, width 78.0; sternite 6 (across median line to distal end of notch) 62.4-85.6; notch 15.6-19.5; aedeagus length 179.4, width 15.6-23.4; total length 1147. Female, head length 201.0-218.0, width 133.0-156.0; pronotum length 133.0-140.0, width 133.0-140.0; elytra length 133.0-156.0, width 62.5-85.6; total length 1130-1150. Scale: 17.9 μ s on drawing = .25 μ on the specimen.

Holotype: male, no. 13552, Northern California: Butte Co., about 1 mile east of Chico, Bidwell Park, ex Omicron plot, 8 December 1967, Coll. L. A. Royce, in soil 1 to 2 inches deep. In the Kistner Collection to be eventually deposited in the Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago.

Paratypes: 3 same data as holotype; 10, same locality as the holotype, 3 January 1969, Coll. L. A. Royce, (L. R., D. K.).

LITERATURE CITED

SCHUSTER, R. O. (1961). Four new species of *Mayetia* from Western North America. Pan-Pacific Entomol. 37: 23-27.

SCHUSTER, R. O., G. A. MARSH, and O. PARK (1960). Present status of the tribe Mayetini in the United States, Part II, California. Pan-Pacific Entomol. 36: 15-24.

Mayetia skeeteri: A, Aedeagus; B, Notched sternite 6 of male; C, Male metatrochanter. Scale equal to 0.25 mm.